Community Partnerships

Colorado County IT Support







FY21-22 County IT Supplemental

System replacement of routers and switches for county human service departments to:

- ensure counties can <u>effectively serve clients;</u>
- mitigate data security concerns, including a recent IRS Audit finding on the out-of-date routers; and
- <u>increase internet speed and response</u> for county staff



Colorado Trails







- Trails is an integrated case management system used by 5,400 users serving children, youth and families across Colorado.
- Users include workers in 64 county departments,
 22 judicial districts, and the Division of Youth
 Services (DYS).
- Those 5,400 users in turn have over 70,000 unique contacts with children and families each month, from screening calls to the child abuse and neglect hotline to conducting safety assessments to connecting families with behavioral health services.

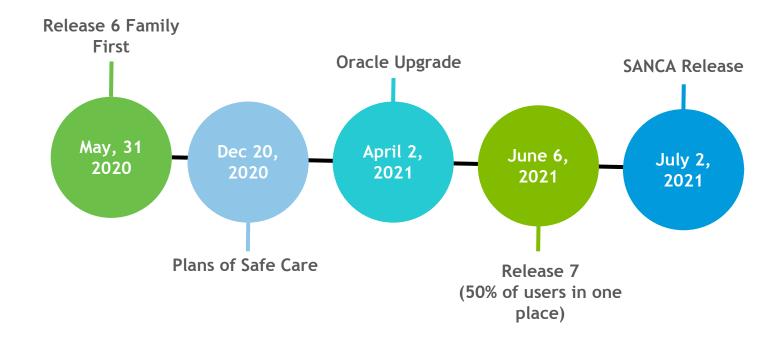


Shifting Our Framework to Agile

- Moving from a "project" to a "product" mindset: Moving to a "product" mindset allows

 Trails to consider all components of the system that support the work of users.
- Focusing resources on the highest-value
 activities: We are pivoting to focus on creating
 highly effective teams that use resources to
 maximize values to users, and that are
 positioned to continue to make improvements
 long after a vendor has rolled off.

Major Releases





R-03 County Trails Refresh and Support

Two components:

- Adjustment of the Trails Line Item Federal and General Fund split to reflect actual federal drawdown; and
- A request for \$1.8 million in a new "County IT Support" line item that will appropriately fund county child welfare technology needs outside of Trails, including computers for caseworkers.



The Future of Trails

Best practice in technology is to move away from incremental capital requests and instead secure an ongoing, reliable source of funding that allows teams to make constantly make improvements and better meet the changing needs of users. This decision item seeks to make that shift.

Office of Economic Security (OES)

Fortifying Families







Heat & Eat (HB 21-1105)

HB 21-1105 created the Heat & Eat program, among other things. Heat & Eat allows households that receive at least \$20 in energy assistance to qualify for a deduction in order to maximize their SNAP benefits.

This benefit will be paid with cash revenue through the Energy Assistance Benefit Charge collected through a surcharge on all household energy bills.



Heat & Eat (HB 21-1105)

Additionally, the bill allows the Department to use available outside resources to build an interface between CBMS (SNAP) and the Low Income Energy Assistance (LEAP) systems.

An interface will maximize the efficacy of Heat & Eat and ensure households receive all the benefits for which they are eligible.





Heat & Eat (HB 21-1105)

To date, no available "outside resources" have been identified to build an interface between the CBMS and LEAP systems.

However, Rep Kennedy has submitted a proposal for Stimulus funds to create this interface.

In lieu of outside resources, the Department will begin to schedule the CBMS changes to issue the energy payments to all SNAP households.



Automated Child Support Enforcement System (ACSES)

Colorado earns nearly \$5 million dollars annually in federal incentives that are passed directly to the 64 counties across the State.

CDHS estimates earning and additional \$800,000 federal dollars by reporting where our Child Support clients are receiving Medicaid benefits and no other benefits such as TANF or IV-E.

ACSES Current State & Limitations

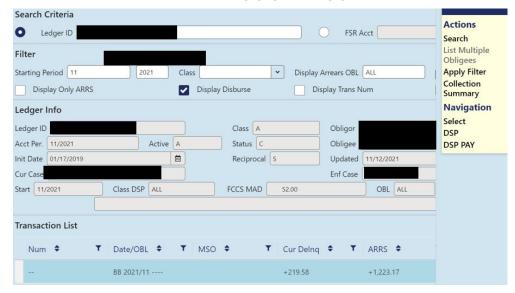
CDHS is requesting a statutory change to use the \$800,000 to support ACSES ongoing

- Has had no new dollars added in more than a decade
 - Will <u>benefit all counties</u>

Not Modernized

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Modernized







Interoperability Update

Joint Agency Interoperability (JAI) connects programs through technology and data to serve the whole person, whole family, and the whole community.

JAI is a partnership between CDHS, HCPF, OIT with the in-scope systems of ACSES (Child Support), Trails (Child Welfare), CHATS (CCCAP), and CBMS (Economic Security programs)

- Overarching Strategy:
 - Domain Driven APIs
- Foundational Work:
 - Legal Framework for Data Sharing
 - Identity Resolution
 - Consistent Business Processes
 - Workflow Management and Document Storage

